

September 10, 2021

COVID – Leave & Health Claims Analysis

To date, County staff have effectively managed operations during the COVID pandemic. Thus far, the mitigation measures put in place by various departments have prevented significant outbreaks or clusters from disrupting service provision.

Below is a comparison of the utilization of COVID leave from April 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 versus regular sick leave (non-COVID related sick leave) over the same time period.

Leave Type	Employee Count	Days	Avg. Days Per Employee
COVID Related	125	806.4	6.5
Normal Sick	371	2,571.5	6.9

Based on the information above, County employees were more apt to be out of work for normal sick leave purposes (e.g., dental or doctor visits, non-COVID illness, etc.) then for COVID related illness during the aforementioned time period.

Additionally, the County's self-insured health insurance fund had a very good financial year in FY 2020-2021. COVID related illnesses did not impact the County's health insurance claims more than a normal pre-pandemic year. Further, if one controls for health care inflation, FY 20-21 would have significantly outperformed FY 19-20. Below please find a comparison of claims paid from July 2019-January 2020 (pre-pandemic) versus the same time period in FY 20-21 (pandemic). The claims paid in the pandemic time period were \$560,000 less (19%).

Fiscal Year	Claims Paid \$
July '19-Jan.'20	\$2,981,610
July '20-Jan. '21	\$2,420,356

Library Demand & Utilization

Demand for library materials and in-person utilization of the County's various library facilities has increased gradually in 2021, but is still not consistent with the summer of 2019.

However, virtual use of the library's materials continues to increase. In fact, virtual use has increased 27% from the summer of 2019. Further, use of the County's Wi-Fi hot spots at the remote library locations continues to garner positive feedback from patrons.

Utilization Type	June-July 2019	June-July 2020	June-July 2021
Monthly Patrons	21,035	8,990	12,520
Virtual Users	4,166	4,675	5,284
Materials Circulated	32,740	24,151	27,247

Agri-Civic Center – Director Transition

Doshia Swaringen, the current Agri-Civic Center Director, has been promoted to the vacant Human Services Program Specialist position in the Health Department. Doshia has a degree and prior work experience in the public health education field. Doshia will slowly transition to this new role beginning next week.

The County is actively recruiting for a new Agri-Civic Center Director and the application period will close on Monday, September 13. Management will work to fill the vacant Director's position by late September-early October.